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## Oral History Interview: America Jarrell

America Jarrell

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Date 4-14-73

America Jarrell  
(Signature - Interviewee)

Bandy town W. Va.  
Address

Date 4/14/73

Harlan Miller  
(Signature - Witness)

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# Mrs. America Jarrell Takes Delight in Being 'History Book'

By John G. Morgan  
Staff Writer

Aunt Ducky was the one who told the lie. She told about Trouncer barking and barking last night.

He barked so much that Pap got up, put his clothes on and went outside and found a little bitty baby, crying.

Pap brought the baby inside and gave it to Mother to keep until it got big enough to walk.

That was the end of the lie, told to Mrs. America Jarrell, 97, when she was a little girl.

...  
ESSENTIALLY, THE lie was an early version of the stork story, told to little children to explain the presence of a new baby.

Mrs. Jarrell, who was the fourth of 10 children, takes delight in telling the lie as she heard it from her Aunt Ducky in the long ago.

The lie is on a tape recording as part of a lengthy conversation Mrs. Jarrell had with her great nephew, Gary Miller, a teacher at Sissonville Junior High School.

The recording, made more than two years ago, is included in the Marshall University collection on the oral history of Appalachia.

Since the interview, Mrs. Jarrell's health has declined somewhat. She now lives in a nursing home in Madison.

Mrs. Jarrell was born at Twilight, Boone County, March 1, 1878. She lived for many years at Bandytown, near Twilight. As a child she traveled little. She never



Mrs. America Jarrell  
In Oral History Book

went to Madison, then known as Boone-town. But "sometimes we would go up as far as Aunt Ducky's who lived up the river." This was two or three miles up the west fork of Pond Fork, which flows into Little Coal River.

Mrs. Jarrell is the mother of three children: Bessie Jarrell, 75, of Charleston, and Claudia and George Cecil Jarrell, both deceased. Her husband, Jacob Jarrell, who cut timber, built fences and farmed, died several years ago.

Her contribution to the oral history project includes vivid early memories of stolen sugar cakes, stolen chewing tobacco, a father who never got drunk, captured bears, a rattlesnake seen while ginseng hunting, sheep ravaged by wolves, splash dams, baptism in ice water, hoedown dances, oxen, mules, hard winters and a midwife named "Granny Dick."

She mentions two pieces of advice she received from her parents, Leftridge and Ollie Miller.

"The first thing was to stay out of bad company. The next thing was to honor thy father and mother, and thy days shall be prolonged here on earth. I can remember daddy saying that."

On the subject of sugar cakes, she says: "Yes sir, I stole many a one. We made homemade sugar, tapped the trees, packed the water. I packed the water, boiled it down in two big kettles."

(Please Turn to Page 2A, Col. 2)

The Charleston Gazette  
1001 Virginia St. E.  
Charleston, W. Va. 25330 9/29/75

## Mrs. America

"But I never touched one (sugar cake) unless it was broke on, but goodby when it was broke on. Now . . . I ain't going to tell you a lie if I know it. A lie will stand in judgment. Now I stole when I was a child at home."

Mrs. Jarrell is asked when she started chewing tobacco.

"I was big enough to steal it out of daddy's pocket," she says with a laugh. "The truth will stand in judgment."

As to her father's drinking habits, Mrs. Jarrell says:

"Never saw him drunk in my life, never did. He always kept whisky . . . He had a big tumbler that his mother gave him, white on the inside and clouded on the outside."

"He'd get up every morning of his life and sweeten that up full of whisky. He's go to mother first, and he's give us every single one a drink of that whisky, and I think that's the reason we all was healthy like we was."

Mrs. Jarrell gives this explanation for her nickname, "Tiggle":

"Grandpa gave me that name. He said he couldn't say America. He just said Tiggle."

She doesn't recall how the nicknames of some relatives got started. These include Aunt Pig (Evelyn), Aunt Nebs (Amy) and Aunt Ducky (Sarah).

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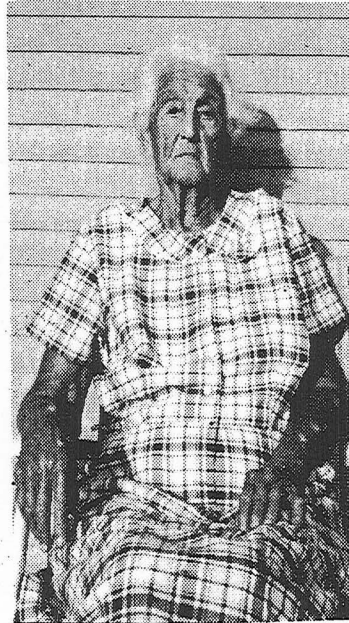
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OPENING STATEMENT-

This is on interview conducted by Gary Miller. Person being interviewed, America Jarrell, formally America Miller, age 94, Bandytown, West Virginia, Boone County.

G. Aunt America, where were you born?

A. Boone County

G. What was the name of the town?

A. Chap Miller

G. Chap Miller was your daddy?

A. No, he was my uncle.

G. He was your uncle and that was the name of the town, Chap Miller.

A. No, lets see, Twilight, thats up there and where we live here is Bandytown.

G. O.K., what year were you born?

A. March 1st 1878

G. 1878

A. Yes sir

G. How many children were in your family?

A. At home?

G. At home.

A. Lets see, 5 boys and 5 girls, there were 10 of us.

G. Can you give me their names?

A. Yes sir I think I can.

G. All right I would appreciate it.

A. The oldest one is Chloe, and the next one is Burl, the next one was Letty, the next one was America (the one being interviewed) the next was Preston, the next one was Kylie, the next one was Arnold (my Grandfather), the next one was George, the next one was Nora, the next one was Zona.

G. Zona was the baby?

A. Yes, Zona was the baby.

G. Did your father or either of your parents have a special name thay called you besides America?

A. Tiggle

G. Do you have any idea where they got this name?

A. No sir I don't, Grandpa gave me that name, he said he couldn't say America, he just said Tiggle.

G. O.K. were your parents very strict on you when you were a girl?

A. Yes sir.

- G. Could you tell me some of the things they did or required you to do?
- A. Yes sir I can. The first thing was to stay out of bad company, the next thing was to honor thy father and thy mother and the days shall be prolonged here on earth, I can remember daddy saying that.
- G. What type work did you do when you were a child?
- A. Just there about the house, seng and clean up about the house.
- G. Seng, do you mean to dig gen-seng.
- A. Yes, go in the hill and dig seng, but my main work was out with the boys in the field. Daddy had no help, I hoed corn and pulled fodder, and geared up horses and drove wagons, now I'll tell you I'm half man in a man's work. I had it to do.
- G. When you were a child what type food did you have at home?
- A. Just like they have got, more than they have got now. We raised everything we eat, even to our meat. The most things we had to buy was sugar or coffee, or something like that.
- G. What kind of sugar did you have?
- A. Either kind, brown sugar or this granulated sugar if we didn't we would tap sugar trees and make it.
- G. What type games did you play when you were a child? Any certain type games that were popular back in those days?
- A. Ball was the most. Us children would get out and play ball, and checkers and things like that.
- G. Do you remember your grandparents very well?
- A. Yes sir, I do.
- G. Could you tell me something about them, say maybe their names and where they lived.
- A. They lived right down the creek below us. My grandpap's name was Preston and my grandmother's name was Emily.
- G. Now Preston, is this where they got the name of this creek up here Press's Branch?
- A. Yes sir, I guess it is, he lived right at the mouth of it.
- G. Where did they come from before they moved here, do you have any idea?
- A. No I don't. But gandpap was raised, he is Aunt Betsy Pauleys son. and grandma they call---, I never did---, what was granny Green's first name, Jenny.
- G. Jenny Green.
- A. Yes sir.
- G. When you were young did you ever take any trips any where? Did you ever go anywhere?
- A. No, nothing only just to church and around and sometimes we would go up as far as Aunt Duckey's that lived up the river. Pap would let us go up there and stay all night.

G. But you never went to Madison or any place like that when you were young?

A. No sir, we never did.

G. Well how did he go?

A. He went with the wagon and team and hauled goods for Uncle Chap Miller and Uncle George Brown. That's the way they got their goods in here.

G. How long would it take him to go to Madison from here?

A. He could go there and back in a day.

G. Can you remember anything about Christmas time when you were a young girl.

A. Yes sir, I can. But it was always done through a blind to us children but we thought it was alright.

G. What type presents did you have?

A. Candy was about all.

G. What type of garden did you have when you were young?

A. Just anything we planted and raised, we raised our own food, never had anything to buy without tobacco, coffee, salt or soda or something like that, Dad always raised plenty of meat, we had it from one year to the next.

G. Were your gardens or fields in the bottom or the new ground type on the sides of the hills?

A. It was always right close around the house, the gardens was.

G. What about the wild game back in those days?

A. There was a few, not much then.

G. Were there any deer in this area at that time?

A. Yes sir they was, bear, they'd catch and set bear pens, my daddy did, and I don't know how many he did catch. He would set a bear pen and bait it with some kind of meat. You go to it and you would have a bear, maybe he would catch two a week. There was plenty game back when I was a child.

G. Well what did you do with the bear, did you a...

A. Eat it.

G. Well what about the hide?

A. Skined it and Uncle Chap would give from 8 to 10 dollars a piece for them

G. What about small games, squirrels, rabbits...

A. Yes, there was plenty of them back when I was a child.

G. Did you have any neighbors, close by?

A. No nobody no closer than grandpa and grandma, they was right at the mouth of the creek and they lived the first house below us.

G. Were there any neighbors around that had children, that you might get together on Sunday or something like that.

A. None real close, no closer than up where Uncle Jim lived, his two girls would come down sometimes and be with us a Sunday and we'd go up the holler but we were charged so many hours to stay and come back at that time and we done it too.

G. Uncle Jim you're talking about, where did he live up...

A. Right up at the mouth of Jim's Branch.

G. In other words then if you hadn't been in a big family there wouldn't have been any children at all for you to play with.

A. No sir, there wouldn't.

G. What type of animals did you have around the house such as oxens, mules, horses, cats, dogs.

A. That's all.

G. Did you have any hunting dogs?

A. No, I don't reckon we did.

G. What about oxen, did you use...

A. Yes sir, daddy had oxens.

G. Did they have names, that you can recall?

A. Yes, Tom was right, was one mule, and I don't think I can quite remember the others or not.

G. What about mules?

A. Yes dad had a mule.

G. Did he have horses?

A. Yes sir.

G. What did he use them mostly for?

A. Farming, sometimes he'd go to Brownstown with the wagon, bring uncle Chap and uncle George a load of goods.

G. Brownstown?

A. Yes, they called Madison, Brownstown.

G. This is back when you were a girl, Madison...

A. Yes they called it Brownstown.

G. County seat of Boone county now, but then it was Brownstown.

A. Brownstown.

G. Well, you answered this in a way but salt, shoes and other things you couldn't grow, you got these from Brownstown.

A. Yes, uncle Chap had a store and my daddy's brother, and he had a big store, right above there on the river where we lived, we'd buy our... and we never got no home made dresses and no dresses only they bought the calico and made it. There was no dresses like them days come in, made up.

G. Have you always lived on this west fork of Pond Fork?

A. Yes I lived here all my life.

G. Did you go to school?

A. Yes sir I went to school.

G. What was the name of the school?

A. I don't know, it was just a school like they have today. They just teach three months.

G. Where was it located?

A. Where was that old school located?

Myrtle Miller Up there where the old air plane wrecked. (Myrtle Miller is 84 year old sister-in-law of America Jarrell, married Arnold Miller deceased 1962. My grandmother and grandfather)

A. Yes right up here, right up there is where I meant.

G. About a mile above Bandytown

A. Yes, upon the creek is where we lived and we would come off and come down to it.

G. How many years did you complete in school?

A. Nary one.

G. What grade did you go through?

A. Well, I went through the fourth. But I never did go through figures much. I can't figure to do no good.

G. What did they teach in schools in those days mostly?

A. Well we just in first readers and fourth readers and spellin and arithmetic.

G. You lived pretty close to school.

A. Yes, upon Press's Branch.

G. You could walk from your house to the school.

A. Yes.

G. What was the reason that you didn't go any farther in school than the fourth grade?

A. I had too much to do at home. I'd go today and let my sister stay home and help mother she had in a loom weaving their cloths. And I'd go today and let my sister would stay and help mother with the children and the house. Well next day it would be my day to stay and do all that and let her go to school and thats what learning I got. Never learned Arithmetic, didn't know how to figure, to figure up nothing or nothing. Just a little bit of doings you know like counting up something. Not nothing in no figures I ain't no hand in figures I can't count or nothing like that.

G. Well you mentioned church awhile ago. Where was the church house located?

A. Right where it is now.

G. At Twilight

A. No right here at Bandytown

G. What denomination was it? Baptist, Methodist or what.

A. Baptist

G. Freewill Baptist

A. Yes

G. Can you Remember how old you were when you joined the church?

A. No I can't



G. Just a small girl?

A. Yes, I was about 15 maybe or 16 year old.

G. Can you remember anything about the church meetings such as the preachers or the type preacher or whether it was real religious or how was it.

A. No, I can remember some of the preachers Sam Wills and Jeff Thomas and John Surrat and who was that other preacher Myrtle I can't think of that name. There is John Surrat and Sam Wills, Jeff Thomas, Andy White John Surrat. Oh there was lots of them back then.

G. Were these preachers the type that alot of people call "Hellfire and Brimstone" preachers where they really preached right down at you.

A. Yes sir they did. They baptized too.

G. Did they baptize anytime of the year, break the ice.

A. Yes sir, now you coming at it just right. I've saw them break the ice and put'em under.

G. Can you remember what time of year it was when you were baptized?

A. No, I can't. But I know it wasn't in such cold weather.

G. Well, did your mother ever bring preachers home and cook for them. Sunday dinner.

A. Yes sir.

G. Well was it kind of a good occasion when the preacher would come I mean you would get a little extra cooking or a little better dinner.

A. Yes sir.

G. What type dinner would you have when the preacher would come.

A. Well them days we always have, pap sometimes would, if it was weather enough he would always kill a hog or mother always had a turkey killed or chickens or we'd bake all kinds of cakes and pies and stuff like that.

G. These turkeys were they ones you raised or were they wild?

A. Ones we raised.

G. When the preacher came to your house did you ever have any experiences of things you did or anything that you can remember?

A. No, only dad would make us behave ourselves and not be around where they was talking, thats all I can remember.

G. Did you ever get into trouble or anything when the preacher was around, something that might be funny now that wasn't so funny then?

A. Yes sir, my dad has called us down many a time, and get up and get a switch...

G. What was this mostly for, just talking or....

A. Just cutting up and playing like children would do.

G. What did people do for entertainment back in those days?

A. Well I just,... I couldn't tell you, just anything, they would visit one another of a Sunday, go take dinner with them, maybe stay all night.



G. Did you have a lot of these Sunday meetings with dinner on the ground?

A. Yes Sir, and I can prove that by her (Myrtle Miller).

G. This was quite a glad happy occasion wasn't it, everyone getting together and talk.

A. Yes sir. Maybe two or three would put all dinners just to one then invite everybody to come and eat their welcome, now thats the way it was, now Myrtle knows I'm telling the truth, she was right into it too and took a many dinner on the ground.

G. What is the biggest thing you remember about summertime when you were a child? What were some of the things you did during the summer?

A. In the summer, well, sometimes we would seng, if we had an early piece of corn: why we would, me and Dan and us, me and Burl was all the help he had, why that's the reason I don't care anything about housework today I was raised outdoors.

G. I see.

A. We would just have to go with him and take care of it.

G. Talking about Gin-Senging, wasn't there a big danger of snakes?

A. Lord, you talk about snakes,

G. Did you ever have any close escapes from a rattlesnake or copperhead?

A. Yes sir, don't you tell me that I didn't.

G. Would you care to tell me about about one or two of them.

A. Yes sir I would, I know I was Senging one time and I was a going through and hit was a laying stretched out and I thought hit was something pretty I didn't know. And about time I went to step over it to pick it up hit went to singing. Now the truth will stand in judgement. But I didn't know but what it was some kind of a pretty stick a laying there. And I have found them as high as two a laying quiled up together too.

G. Rattlesnakes?

A. Rattlennakes.

G. Getting back to this summer time, did you have a swimming hole that the kids would go to and go in swimming?

A. No sir, they wouldn't allow us about the water. They had to come off that creek and come to granny's and they was one big hold of water there and it was like the river is a running out there now. And the water was deep and our parents wouldn't never let us go to it.

G. There was a lot more water in the creek there is now?

A. Yes sir they was.

G. Was there any fish in the creek?

A. No--not to say, just you would call them minners you may say, but sometimes the boys would go out and catch them maybe about that long, hog-suckers they called them.

G. About 6 or 7 inches long.

A. Yes.

- G. What type of work did the men work at here? Was there a timber industry or---
- A. Yes sir, they worked in saw logs hauled the logs with cattle, yolk up oxen.
- G. Where was the sawmill located? Or did they just haul them to the creek and float them down the creek?
- A. Yes, you took the words out of my mouth. They came out of the creek with them and haul them down there to the river and when it would rain the water would get up, the men would take their caint hooks and haul all them logs in the river and let them wash, I don't know where they went to.
- G. Did they have things, I've heard people talk about them, called splash dams?
- A. Yes sir. They was one built right here up to grandpaps old mill wasn't there Granny. (Myrtle Miller)
- G. What was the purpose of these splash-dams?
- A. Float them logs out.
- G. They'd gather water behind them, then open the gates?
- A. They'd let that water open and we lived upon the creek and we'd come down and it just look like a big thunder cloud a comin'. As it come it raised them logs right off of that water and took em right on down the river.
- G. What are the memories of the winter evenings --say, sitting around the fire-place.
- A. Well, that's what we done, popped corn and roasted potatoes and eat a early supper and maybe play goose what you'd call it, fox and goose on a board with corn. I know you seen it done that way lots of times. We never did have no checkers and we'd take corn, you know, and put on them dots.
- G. Did you play hully-gull?
- A. Yes, helly-gull's what we played .
- G. What did you use?
- A. Corn. Chestnuts, buttons, just anything you'd have.
- G. What type winters did you have back then, were they mild or pretty harsh
- A. I tell you -- we had hard'ns.
- G. Did you have a lot of snow?
- A. Lord yes, I've seen my daddy take his shovel and shovel the snow from the door out to the barn and shovel it from the barn to the creek to get the horses to water -- to water 'em. You have no snows no like we had.
- G. How deep would you say the snow would have been?
- A. Well, I no doubt measured it one time and it was three foot. He took it, that what ever you call it, took it out and it was three feet.
- G. In the evenings sitting around the fire like this in the winter what did you talk about? What was some of the discussion, was it the Bible or just farm work or what.
- A. Yes, we'd all seem to have the fire full of potatoes roasting and we'd have spelling books as children would and just same as now just like we was in school. Burl or the oldest sister, or some of them like that would give us books you know, and we'd study, then they'd call us to class. Just exactly like we was in school and they'd give them works out to us and read to--

and we'd read to 'em.

G. What about politics back in those days, was it a very big issue, did they talk much or campaign or did they vote or what?

A. Oh, yes sir, they went and voted, yes. And sometimes they'd fight, have fights on the grounds.

G. I see, can you remember any big political names, like who was running for president or anything like that when you were young?

A. Yes, but I forgot their names, Myrtle, if you could call them over maybe I could think of them.

Myrtle Abraham Lincoln

Miller A. That was one

Myrtle

Miller James A. Garfield

A. That's right

NOTE: This is a mistake because  
Lincoln was already dead  
when these women were born.

G. Were they any colored folks that lived on the hollow while you were young?

A. Up where we lived?

G. In this area anywhere

A. Law they raised--they stayed in the house with some of us.

G. Had they been slaves and this was after they had been set free and they just stayed on.

A. Yes sir, they stayed right on.

G. Can you remember any of their names?

A. Vacey and Turk, yes he was buried on what they call old Turk's Point (pronounced "Pint") that's where it got that name, we buried him up there.

G. Had he lived with you folks all your life?

A. No, he lived with Granny, my Grandmother Jarrell, but as far as us a having any we don't know, but if any of us got sick in the family, just like it would be now, grandmother had them, why the old lady, she would come and stay and help mother with the sick till it got through then she'd go back to her home.

G. Do you remember these colored folks pretty well?

A. No, I can't remember the woman, her name was Vacey, and another one's name was Vine.

G. Vine?

A. Vine, yes I can remember them, but I can't remember, you know, them a being there waiting on us or something like that, but I can remember their faces, just like I'm looking at you now.

G. I see

A. I've slept with 'em a many a night.

G. Did they sing a lot or did they seem happy or were they---

A. Yes sir they did.

G. Did all of them die here or did some of them leave out?

A. I don't know, I couldn't tell you-

Myrtle -

Miller Turk died here

A. Yes that's the reason now that old---where is that point (Pint)? up here, now Turk he died and thats why they give that old graveyard point up there that name. I know I've ~~heard~~ heard you say, "up here on old Turk Point" (Pint).

G. Yes, Turk's Point

A. Yes Sir.

G. Who took care of the younger children in the family?

A. What do you mean? When we was all living.

G. Well, yes, maybe some were babies and the older ones would be in the field and maybe your mother would be in the field working.

A. Well, to come out and tell you plain truth about it them days and time they was colored women, Vacey, and what was the other one's name?

G. Vine-

A. Vine and Vacey. She stayed with Grandma and Uncle Press Jarrell, my Grandfather, she stayed there, but if any of us on the creek got sick or anything, why she'd come out and help mother with the children there at home.

G. When you were say probably 15 Or 16 you had younger children at home ---

A. Oh yes.

G. Well now would your mother stay at home and take care of them while you all worked the fields?

A. Yes, cook-

G. How did you go about getting to a doctor in those days, when you were sick?

A. Had to go after one.

G. Where was the nearest doctor?

A. Up on James Creek.

G. Was this on this creek or on Big Coal River?

A. Yes, it was right up here, up here where Doctor Browning lived, on James Creek as they call it. Doctor Browning lived up there and Doctor Hall, they had to go to the Pond Fork for him.

G. This is around Wharton?

A. Yes sir.

G. Did you have any music back in those days?

A. Yes sir.

G. What type instruments did you play?

A. Banjo, fiddle, organ

G. Could you play any of them?

A. Yes Sir.

G. Which ones?

A. Any of them.

G. What type songs did you play? Can you remember any of the songs?

A. Oh yes.

G. What were the names?

A. Oh, I don't know what their names was but one of them we called Johnny Booger and I know that we knew some others.

G. Can you remember any words to them?

A. Oh I guess I could if I studied long enough, but I know I could pick it on the banjo. If I had a banjo today I'd pick you one.

G. Was it a five string banjo?

A. Yes sir.

G. Did you have any quilting parties?

A. Oh yes.

G. Tell me something about these.

A. Well we just put in quilts.

G. Would you all meet at someones home or...

A. Yes sir theres been a many a one at my mothers house. End up with a big dance.

G. What type dance?

A. Just a ho-down dance or any kind of a dance you wanted to dance. Two would get out and dance or run a four hand reel or a left and right reel or anything.

G. This was mostly square dancing?

A. Yes sir, mostly square dancing.

G. Who did the calling?

A. Nobody. Wasn't any calling in them days and times.

G. They just danced...

A. Yes.

G. To the music.

A. Preston Pauley get out his fiddle didn't have no banjoes, just a fiddle. And they'd all couple out, they just like now adult couples out here two to back and fourth, well this couple up her would dance at the head and he'd go to foot and the next down here would come up and he'd go to the foot. 'till they all danced. Then he'd say what you'd call, right and left you'd go backwards and forwards this way with hands all around, I can't tell you how it is but still thats the way we all done.

G. I imagine that was a lot of fun.

A. Yes sir it was.

G. It was a big freak in the ...

A. Had good times, never seed nobody drunk, if anybody drunk come around why they got away, we made him leave.

G. Well, speaking of drunks, did you have any law enforcement in those days?  
A. No, not unless somebody went out and done something wrong and you had to have the law.

G. Was there any law living in this area or were they a long way off?  
A. Well I don't know you will have to ask Myrtle about that.

Myrtle \_ Well the Sheriff lived around here.  
Miller

A. Yes, there was sheriff's like they is now but they was at what they call Madison, now, we call it Boonetown. Down to Boonetown.

G. Here is a question you will like. Did you have any boyfriends back in those days?

A. Yes, sir.

G. Can you remember any of them?

A. Oh, I had so many I can't really tell (laughs).

Myrtle \_ She married one of them  
Miller

A. Yes, I married one of them

G. How did you come-a-courting? Did they come to see you or did you just meet at church or---

A. Yes, we'd just meet at church around, course they'd come and see me while I was there at home as a girl.

G. Was there any difference in the nature of your mother and daddy? In their--- in the way they liked to do or maybe one would---well, I won't ask you if one was your favorite, but the way they treated the children or the way---

A. Yes, sir, I liked my daddy better than I did my mother, and I hate to say it.

G. Is there a reason or---

A. Yes, sir, theys a reason - didn't make any difference what we done, be good or bad or anything about it, mother would pull your hair andpap would't.

G. Can you remember any of the things that you did when you were young that you got in trouble over?

A. Yes, lots of them.

G. Can you give me maybe two or three different things?

A. Yes, mother would have chickens up in the coop to fatten for people when they come big meetings or things like that, I'd get sorrty for them, and I'd turn them out.

G. Did you ever---

A. Pap would have his tobacco out there at the barn and he didn't know that any of us children used tobacco. Me and Burl would get out and pick up the best leaves where it was good and dry, twist them and lay them up on top of the shed to lay there and dry and then we'd use them. We'd keep them hid though.

G. When you say used it, would you smoke or chew it?

A. I chewed it.

G. Did you ever get sick?

A. Yes.

G. And even by getting sick you still went back to using it.

A. Yes sir I went on back to my tobacco.

G. And you are 94 now.

A. I was born March 1st, 1878.

G. You will be 95 in a little less than a month and you still use tobacco today.

A. Yes sir.

G. Can you remember how old you were when you first started chewing?

A. I was big enough to steal it out of daddy's pocket (laughing) the truth will stand in judgement, do you know it?

G. Was there ever any dealings or something about stealing sugar cakes.

A. Yes sir, I stold a many one. We made homemade sugar, tapped the trees, packed the water, I packed the water and boiled it down in two big kettles, dad did up in the mountains. But I never would touch a cake that had been broke on. He'd take it out in big dishes and cups and saucers or anything to take it out in. But when some of the neighbors would come or something that, he generally sold it, but when some of the neighbors come he'd go cut em off a lot of that sugar off of that. But I never tetched one unless it was broke on, but good-by then whenever it was broke on. Now I'm going to tell you son, and I ain't going to tell a lie if I know it. A lie will stand in judgement. Now I stole when I was a child at home.

G. Did you get a whipping when you got caught?

A. No, they didn't know it. They didn't know which one of the children done it.

G. I guess that is one advantage of being in a large family isn't it...

A. Yes sir they's 10 of us.

G. You can always blame it on your brothers.

G. You say there was 10, there is only 2 living today, you and your brother George are the only two that is left.

A. That's the only two that's left.

G. Who was the boss in your home when you were a girl?

A. Both.

G. Both. In other words your dad was the boss outside and your mom the boss in the house.

A. Yes Sir, but now he was just as much boss over us and the children as he was on his things outside. When he told us not to do nothen we know'd better to do it.

G. When you were a girl did you ever go stay with your grandparents any?



- A. Yes, my grandmother almost raised me.
- G. Well, can you remember anything that happened that you might want to talk about when go to stay with your grandparents, I mean, any special treatment they would give you, or something like that?
- A. No, 'course they was both good to me when granny was called off. Go anywhere I always slept at her back. And when she's called off to go off like we would be called off now to some women or something, why, she'd say, "Now don't you sleep with Amie tonight remember now you go get right in behind the bed now right Press's back and sleep with him tonight mind you.
- G. Now you speak of Amie, is that one of your grandmother's sister?
- A. One of her children.
- G. I see.
- A. Amie was my mother's sister.
- G. Was your mother's sister and she was your aunt.
- A. Yes.
- G. Did your mother have a nickname?
- A. Pod, yes sir.
- G. What was her real name?
- A. Olly
- G. Olly and her nickname was Pod. Did any of her sisters have nicknames?
- A. All of them.
- G. Could you give me some of them?
- A. Well, Aunt Duckies name was Sarah and Aunt Amie name was Nebs, and what was Aunt Janes' and Aunt Pigs nickname? Blackie was what they all called Aunt
- G. And Evelyn was Aunt Pig?
- A. Yes
- G. Well how did they come to get these names?
- A. Well, I guess. . .
- G. Just, someone gave it to them.
- A. Yes, I reckon.
- G. How old were you when you got married? Or could you remember what year it was in?
- A. I was married March 1, 1878. [birth date]
- G. And you got married when? How old were you.
- A. I was about sixteen and seventeen along there.
- G. How did you meet your husband?
- A. I couldn't tell you.

G. Did he live on this creek also?

A. No, he lived down here below Brownsbranch.

G. That about 4 or 5 miles down the creek. What was your husband's name?

A. Leftridge, my husband?

G. Your husband.

A. Jacob.

G. Jacob Jarrell?

A. Yes, sir.

G. Was his parents from this area also?

A. Yes, Johnny Jarrell, he married Haley Ferrell.

G. What type work did you husband do?

A. Well, just there about the house, he mostly built fence, made rail timber, made palens to palen in the place and sometimes he'd seng. Most of the time, in time of season, they didn't have no season like they got now, he'd go a squirrel hunting and things like that, but we always raised a farm. We'd farm and raise planty of everything, there was hogs, killed beef in the fall and we never went hungry.

G. Who was the boss in your house after you were married? You or your husband?

A. He tend to his business and I tend to mine. Before I was married I said, "I'm goint to ask you one thing." He said, "What'll that be?" I say you are going to stay out of my kitchen. He sayd, "What about me?" You keep your horses at the barn and I'll never go about them. Now I'm telling you the truth And I think that's right. I'm no business to go out there - now if me and you was married and you had a big horse out here and somebody wanted to come and give you \$250.00 for that horse and I'd jump in - no hits not a going, no hits not just let that horse right alone. My place is in here, that is your place out there with the horses. Now an't I right?

G. You don't find a whole lot of that today do you?

A. No sir, you don't.

G. How many children did you have?

A. Three.

G. What were their names?

A. George Cecil, Claudia, and Bessie and Bessie is the only one that is living now.

G. Who was the oldest?

A. Bessie.

G. I see. (pause) Did you do much house work when you were a girl?

A. No sir, I had to do it all out doors. Dad had no help only just me and my oldest brother.

G. Then your first work at house work was after you got married?

A. Yes sir.

G. How did you like it?

A. I didn't like it so well. For I was used to yoking up cattle. My daddy would get up every morning he'd always call me Mackie, Mackie now me and Burl to pull a load of corn you yoke the cattle up. Now you think I'm sitting here telling you that just to have a big tale of it. You can yoke the cattle up, one of them was a black and white pided steer and the other was white with a red neck. I'd go out and yoke them cattle up and ginst I'd get them cattle yoked up I'd just push them together and if they wouldn't stand apart I'd go in under their heads and hook that chain up here, you know, in that ring in the yoke. And ginst I'd get that done I'd have to help over there at the house, like washing dishes, maybe something nother like that, I'd get out and yoke them cattle up, my daddy and brother would get up - now I'm going to the field today and ginst I get a load of corn pulled now you bring the cattle and come and get it. Now you think I'm sitting here telling you something that ain't right, but if God was here he'd say, "She's telling you the truth." Well I'd get up and eat my breakfast and they'd feed the cattle before they'd go off. I know what the cattle's names was, it was Tom and Bright. I'd go out and yoke up old Tom, he was the off-steer and I'd hold the yoke and I don't care how far old Bright was off, I'd just hold up the yoke and hold out the bow and say, "Come under Bright. And that oxen would come up and walk right in under that yoke.

G. Did you call one of them the off-steer?

A. Yes, the off-steer was old Tom.

G. What does that mean, the off-steer?

A. That's from the other side, the right side is where you stay on that side and drive them. And if you couldn't do no good a driving them, they wouldn't mind you, put a rope around their horns. You stayed on the right side of the steers.

G. The one of the left side was the off-steer.

A. Off-steer.

G. Was there any drinking or anything like that around your home?

A. Yes, btt not there at my home, wasn't any of us, none of the boys none of them didn't get drunk, but they'd come in drunk you know. Some of them, Anderson Brown was pretty bad to come in drunk. My daddy, if I do say it myself, he hauled goods for uncle Chap and Uncle George Brown both, and you could come to his house any time you pleased and you'd find his jug of licker sitting right at the head of his bed. He'd get up every morning of his life, he had a big tumbler his mother gave him, clouded on the outside and white on the inside, didn't mkae any difference who come or nothing about it, preachers or nothing else, he'd sweeten that glass of licker up for us and he'd come to us children, he'd go to mother first, then he'd come to us children and give us every one a sup out of that, then he'd drink it, eat his breakfast, get out on the porch with his Bible and read it until he got what he want read about and till he was through with it. Then maybe he'd pick up his hoe and hoe patch of tobacco or some little something out where he had to have done.

G. The only time he drank than was when he got up in the morning?

A. Yes, sir.

G. Kind of like a appetizer.

A. Never saw him drunk in my life. Never did. He always kept whiskey. He hauled goods for Uncle Chap Miller his brother and Uncle George Brown. He'd go up to his house any time he pleased and that jug of whiskey sit right there, about a half a gallon was what he'd get. It would sit right there and if they ever was a child ever went to that jug of whiskey, but he'd get up nearly every morning of his life. He had a big tumbler that his mother gave him white on the inside and clouded on the outside he'd get up every morning of his life and sweeten that up full of whiskey he'd go to mother first, and he'd give us every single one a drink of that whiskey and I think that's the reason we all was healthy like we was.

Myrtle

Miller - She slipped in there one day and got the jug out and got drunk.

A. Yes I did. I thought it tasted like pap had in his glass.

G. And you got drunk?

A. Yes sir I did.

G. Did he get on to you for it?

A. No sir, he didn't. I know mother was a weaving and Aunt Ducky was there and I didn't know what I done. And poor old mother she'd get up and she was wring her hands this way. What in the world is the matter? What in the world is the matter with the child? Aunt Ducky ran up and grabbed me and shook me. I'll tell you what really the matter with her. Well what in the world, well says she drunk, why says she drunk. She came in where'd you get that at? I said I got it under the bed out of pap's jug. I know what I said. I thought it taste like he had it you knew, he always kept whiskey. He never was drunk in his life as I know of.

G. Did he make it or buy it?

A. No, he hauled goods for uncle Chap and He got it all what they call Madison now, they called it Brownstown. He got it down there.

G. They had a liquor store down there.

A. Yes, he got it down there at the liquor store. And he never was out of it as I know of, as long as I was a child at home, as long as I remember he ever had it I never seed him drunk in my life. I had good parents if I do say it.

G. Can you remember anything since there were ten children in your family, can you remember anything that happened between you and your brothers and sisters, any trouble or maybe some of the things where you would team together against different ones, or something?

A. Yes sir, I've got a many a whipping over things like that.

G. Can you tell me about any of them that you can remember?

A. Yes, we'd all play hide-and-seek and if I was a hiding in the family that they was a hunting for, if I'd get out I would skip and tell them where they was at. (ha ha ha) Now that's just as far as stealing that's something I never done in my life, as I know of, was to steal, only there at home, but it wouldn't be nothing big like. They ain't no meetings now like there was then. They'd commence on Thursday and I've seen mother take two of her beds off her bedstead and take them down for people to sleep.

G. You mean church beds, church meetings I mean?

A. Yes, big church meetings. She'd cook maybe a day or two, maybe pap would get out and kill a hog, we used ice-boxes them days and times. Myrtle knows how they was.

G. Where did you get your ice?

A. The truck come in. We had the ice house. Where was that old ice house built at? It was down there at the mouth of the creek.

G. What did you do, get ice in the winter and put in this ice house?

A. No, no, no, we don't got none in the winter only what God gave us. We had ice-boxes would hold 50 pounds. And 50 pounds would do a week. Got ot the ice-box any time you please, what we cann frigideres, then not frigidares. But ice-boxes that what we called them. They had shelves in there, you could keep anything you want. And they had a place down in there you could set a bucket or something or other to catch the water as it leaked you know, and we'd throw that out and set it back. 50 pounds of ice would do us a week.

G. Did you ever run out and have food to spoil or anything like that?

A. No, not that I remember. The ice truck run twice a week.

G. What did you use for lighting in your house?

A. Kerosine?

A. Lamp oil, yes. We would go out on these old ridges to plow the field, that black pine you know, it just burned just like oil and we'd use hit. Mother would get up every morning to get breakfast, sometimes the oil lamps would be broke or we'd be out of lamp oil, she'd just light a big piece of thst. Well that would give her a light all around the stove, if we got up before daylight, to see how to cook.

G. What time of the morning did you usually get out of bed?

A. Oh, just sometimes it would be way before daylight, and sometimes it would be daylight we'd get up just according to how us children was. We'd get up and make a noise or anything why they all got up. And that the way it went.

G. But you never slept late?

A. No, no. We never slept late.

G. Did you go to bed pretty early.

A. Yes, sometimes we would, but sometimes we'd sit up and pop corn, pop popcorn and play checkers and we didn't have the checkers, but we'd take corn.

G. Can you remember what your feelings was the first time you heard a radio?

A. No, I can't. I don't remember.

G. You didn't have a radio when you were a girl, did you?

A. No, no. Get no kind of music only uncle Bob playing the fiddle and French harps and things like that.

G. Of course there is a lot of difference between today and when you were a girl.

A. Lord, Lord.

G. If you had your choice which times would you rather live in?

A. Lord, I'd rather be back home with my parents. I'm telling you the truth from my heart.

G. You didn't have as many conveniences then but you were a lot happier.

A. No sir I ain't. I didn't want to marry when I married and I loved Jake Jarrell as much as any woman ever loved a husband, and he was good to me.

G. Getting back to Jake Jarrell, your husband, after you were married, did you live on this creek? Did you live on this creek or did you move off?

A. Well, I went down there, he built a house right in below, you know where the old Johnny Jarrell house is? Well, right across the river there is where we lived. And that old house may be sitting there yet I don't know.

G. Did you live there all your life or did you move to Big Coal or anywhere?

A. Yes, we moved up in Raleigh, I stayed up in there - - -

G. You mean Raleigh County?

A. Yes, I stayed up in there I expect 10 or 12 years, maybe longer than that.

G. What did your husband work at when he - - -

A. Saw logs.

G. Saw logs?

A. Yes.

G. Did they make very good money in those days?

A. Yes, sir. They did. And they bought anything in the store that you wanted, get what you wanted, even meat. Fresh meat, or chickens or anything like that they bought in the store.

G. In those days were all of your clothes made out of calico or did you ever use any - - -

A. They was wove on thread looms. Mother would weave, I've carded and spun and fixed. She'd put in a big thread in the loom and we'd, the boys britches, blankets, weave stuff, put stripes around the tail out of yarn. I never knowed was a dress was out of the store or calico until I got big enough to send and go and buy, dig the and take it to get calico, it was 5 cents a yard then.

G. It is a lot different than the way cloth is now.

A. Oh, yes, and we'd get them and Aunt Ducky would make them every single one Mother Hubbard that's all the way we knowed how to make them.

G. When your father, Leftridge Miller would buy feed for his livestock did it come in a sack?

A. We always raised it.

G. You always raised all your grain feed?

A. Yes sir, every bit of it.

G. What is the biggest difference you see today and back when you were a girl? What are some of the biggest changes that you have seen?

A. Your eating.



G. Your eating?

A. Yes, sir. You never had to go to the store to buy nothing unless it wss coffee or salt or soda, or hardly every any bakingpowder used them days. We raised it all. You could go to my daddy's place or grandpa's place or her (Myrtle Miller) place any time you pleased. We'd have all kinds of stuff, cabbage, handovers, turnips. Any kind of those things we had to hold up, just to big holes all over the place and cellar setting full, but you couldn't hole up sweet taters. Now they ~~won't~~ keep you needn't try. I don't care how you fix them, but then I reckon the ground was too hot for them for all I know. I don't know, but Pap had a good cellar right in front of his house. We all had all of our turnips, potatoes, cabbage what we wanted to use to keep out you know. Get cold weather and the holes would all get froze up and you couldn't get them out and we'd get them when we could get into them and we'd take out enough and put them in the cellar. He had a cellar right before his fire place. Where he kept - - - he had a big thing fixed on one side and on this side he fill this side full of potatoes and maybe this side full of apples over here, and had plenty of room in there to sit cabbage or any kind of stuff we wanted, it got bad weather you didn't have to go out and dig in the ground and get it out. Winter weather come and you run short of something we had in the cellar whenever it come time that the ground wasn't froze why Dad would go out, you see what we needed in the cellar, you'd take it out of them holes and put it here in the cellar. Now that's just the way we come up. We had a good living too. Better than we have today.

G. You were talking about sugar trees. Did you ever make any trips to the trees?

A. Lord, Lord, Lord, I'd say I did. That's the best sugar that every anybody eat.

G. What time of the year was this, around January, February and March?

A. Yes, whenever it would come a big hard freeze. Oh, you could hear the timber a cracking, whenever that thawed my pap had troughs made and the sugar trees tapped, spouts you know to catch the water and whenever that thawed why, I'll tell you, I had a time a carrying that water. He boiled it down in the hill in big kettles, iron kettles. He'd boil it down to a syrup and brought it to the house and put in into sugar. Now thats the way I come up, nowI lived in that kind of a life and would be covered up with middlings of meat and ham. Shoulders all a hanging up big beef quarters hanging up in there. I tell you people lived that day but we raised it. Now that's what we done, we raised what we had to eat.

G. Back in those days you didn't have anything like this welfare program or people that wouldn't work did you?

A. No, nothing like that. Nothing at all.

G. Did you have very many people or any that wouldn't work?

A. Yes sir. We hardly ever had a week passed over our head but ~~what~~ they's 2 or 3 come and stay all night with the boys and the girls. Uncle Jim's girls and all of them around would come and stay all night with us. And some nights pap would let us go stay all night with them.

G. Well it seems like - - -

A. And when come, meeting or anything now you'd have to commence cooking on Friday I'd get so tired and hungry sometimes, they'd sit with their chairs pulled up



like this. I'd give anything to a got hold of them chairs and pulled it out and let them drop on the floor. Go on off you can eat directly, they'll soon be done, if you be good I'll give you a piece of pie. That didn't suit me, I wanted that chicken there on the table. Now you have been a child once now you know that I'm telling the truth.

G. In other words, when the grown-ups came home from church on Sunday, the children had to eat last.

A. Yes, sir.

G. Did you think that was fair?

A. I didn't know. Well now I'll tell you I reckon it was for I never could eat when I was a child and somebody strange a sitting at the table. I was afraid they's a looking at me. No, mother would always give us a piece of pie, or cake or something like that to take in our hand. Now you children go on and eat and when we get done we will call you. And there was just as much on that table when us children went in there as there was before we sat down.

G. Well, all in all it seems like in these 94 years you had a pretty good life.

A. Yes, sir. I have. I don't remember ever in my life, now I'm a telling you the truth, never had a doctor with me but once in my life. Outside, I don't know whether I ever had any doctor with me when any of my children was born.

G. Speaking of that you say your mother had 10 and you had 3.

A. Yes, sir.

G. Who took care of them. You know today they go to a hospital when they have their children. What happened? How did it go back in those days?

A. They wasn't no such thing as a hospital. It was in Charleston. There was nothing around here.

G. All the children were born at home?

A. Yes sir they's all born at home.

G. Who assisted in the birth?

A. Well, we always called her "Granny Dick." Uncle George Green's Jenny was her name. They lived right where the old Bandy Green house set. They live in the lower end of that house. She was a mid-woman. They would always send and get her or get Uncle Jake Ferrells' old lady, Aunt Milley.

G. What did you say this woman's nickname was? The mid-woman?

A. Aunt Milley and "Granny Dick." We always called her, her name was Jenny.

G. Where did she get a nickname like that?

A. I don't know, that all I ever heard her called. Myrtle might tell you for all I know.

Myrtle Miller - I don't know, Maw always called her "Granny Dick."

A. Granny Dick.

- G. Childbirth in those days was quite hard then, wasn't it?
- A. I guess it was, we don't know nothing about it. I know we was always sent away from home. I know that.
- G. What was your reaction? Where did you go to your grandparents?
- A. Yes. We would all go to Granny.
- G. Well how did they, did they tell you after the child had been born how did they break the news to you then they'd come and tell you that you had a brother or sister.
- A. Yeah. They had an old dog names Trouncer.
- G. Yeah.
- A. And we'd go up there and we could come and see your little brother or see your little sister. Aunt Ducky was the one that tole the lie.
- G. What kind of a lie did she tell?
- A. Don't you know we all went to bed last night and had an old dog names Trouncer. Don't you know we all went to bed last night and Trouncer barked and he barked and he barked and Left would get up and put on his clothes and go see what that dog was barking at went out there and there laided a little baby crying he brought it in here and my mother's name was Ollie but they called her Pod for a short name. And said we put Pod to bed and give her the baby to take care of till it got big enough to walk or something. Didn't notice it was sucking on the breast, we didn't have sense enough, we didn't know that you know.
- G. I guess it was Trouncer in those days, and today its the stork.
- A. Now let me tell you something. Children raised up in the day I come up, not because I'm in there, is just as much difference today, as dark and daylight as sunlight and dark is to you. You never hear one cuss a word; of one said a backgardy word you'd feel the licks on your back. I don't know if I ever heard my brothers cuss an oath in my life while I was at home. I don't know as I ever did. If I have I forgot it. And I never heard my daddy cuss an oath in my life.
- G. Was your daddy a pretty religious man?
- A. Yes, sir, he was.
- G. Did he make all of the kids go to church with him?
- A. Yes, whenever they was church it wasn't very, well just like it is now I reckon I always lived on that old creek up there. But the old school house sittin above where it is sittin' now.
- A. Now I want to tell you we come up by the hardest. What I mean is work. But you could go to dad's smoke-house anytime you pleased or grandpaps or any other neighbor around here and you couldn't get to it for striking your head against big middlings of meat and quarters of beef a hanging up and maybe a big bear on the shelf, they catched bears back in them days and times.
- G. Where there any wolves around here in those days?

- A. Yes sir, there was wolves. Dad killed one, one time, you could hear them hollering that scared me to death. What they called "old Cooper's voce" I know you don't know nothing about it where we lived on the creek up there. Lord, Lord, Lord, I'd be so afraid, I'd be so afraid that my heart was up in my mouth. Poor old Granny Jarrell'd come up and she'd get me to go with her to get the wool where the wolves would kill the sheep, you know? Why we'd bring that wool we go up there and there'd be fifteen to twenty sheep a layin' there dead. Wool was all over the hill. Leaves all in it, we'd have to pick it out. Those old wolves a hollerin every night. Grandpap set a trap and catched one, one time. And he caught one in the bear pen and he took it home. And Myrtle can't remember nothin' about it but I can. He took that wolf home and kept it, kept it tied. There in the - - - in the yard to the apple trees. I got just well it got just as tame as a dog they turned it loose and it came all through the house and all around there, and get out there on the porch.
- G. Well since there was a lot of wolves and they came out and howled at night, there wasn't much coon hunting went on was there?
- A. No there wasn't. No sir. They's must what the wild meat we eat would be bear where grandpa and pap would catch them in bearpens. And they'd go coon huntin' to kill a coon.
- G. Well did you have milk cows?
- A. Oh yes. I say we did. Pour milk out to the hogs.
- G. How about bees?
- A. Bees?
- G. Yes.
- A. Well you couldn't get out what one got after you'd. . .
- G. Did you have quite a bit of honey in those days . . .
- A. Oh yes. It would go to sugar. Pap would go out that way in bee time. And come in and rob. Give this one a bucket of honey and that one a bucket of honey. And there'd be grandpap with all of his bee's and he's always, and after it goes to sugar I don't want it, I can't eat it. It would go to sugar. Pap and Granny and mother kept poor ole Kate Harper and them little children out there on the hill. I bet you they never eat a mess but what they had some of the grub from grandpaps or paps there. Pap would get them big buckets of honey and go to the hole and take out taters for them and Harrison and Perry was just little bitty boys, wasn't able to do nothing and after Uncle Harper died and Left her there with all them little children.
- G. Well, I'll kind of wind this up. Do you remember what nationality your grand-parnets were, I mean German, English, or part Indian or what?
- A. American.
- G. Just American?

Myrtle

Miller - Now one of them was, Granny Miller was part Indian.

G. Do you have any Indian blood in you that you know of?

A. Uh, uh.

G. I see. Well in these 94 years you have had a pretty good life and you still seem to be going pretty strong.

A. Yes sir. I have. If I ever had a doctor once in my life I don't know it. I never had a doctor once in my life I don't know it. I never had none in childbirth. Never been in the hospital. Nothing only just a doctor came through, like going through and seeing the patients.

G. If you had anything that you could change from the time you were born in 1878 until 1973, would you change anything from the way it has happened to you?

A. Oh, yes. I say I would, I would change clothes. We never had a dress made. None of us even young women a courting, Mother Hubbard. Now that's the way we come up. And part of the time, I've courted with Jake Jarrell a many of a time in a dress wove on a loom. Now we come up the hard way and I thank God for it. Now I do.

G. Well, I guess. . .

A. The Bible says, "Things will change but my work will never change." Days and nights is changed just as much as you are a white man from a colored one. Now I know what I'm a toaking about. Go to any man's place you want and they'd be 15-20 big bee stands setting out there, big cans of honey setting in the . . . the smoke house went to sugar. And I wouldn't, I won't eat that, I've eat that, the only way you can do that is to put it on and let it melt, then it wouldn't go back to sugar no more.

G. Well, I guess this is all I will bother you today Aunt America, so I thank you very much.

A. I'm awful glad you come and talked to me I swear I do. Well, I tell you I've told you a lot of stuff and I ain't told you a lie. I've told you the truth about everything that I knowed about since I come up.

G. O.K. Thank you.

A. And we'd get one pair of shoes. I know you've seed them old things curved around the toe old brad things around. And that's all we got, we got barefooted, we'd go barefooted. Wasn't no work then, none like they is now. No work. No coal mines or nothing like that. What you worked might be in sawlogs or something. And the most of our clothes we wore, was wove on the loom. We'd get the wool. I've carded and spun and twisted and filled wheels and everything so mother could weave our. . . she'd weave enough to make us two good dresses through the winter and that's all we'd get. There would be Quarterly meetings. . . go and get your dresses. Thank God I come up that way.

G. Well. Thank you very much.

A. Well, I thank you for coming and talking with me, it give me pleasure.

End of Interview